



## NEWS RELEASE

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## Woman Sentenced For Killing Elderly Man in West Covina

A 42-year-old woman was sentenced today to 30 years to life in state prison for murdering an elderly man whose body was found in his West Covina home that had been set on fire, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Brenda Armstrong of La Puente was sentenced by Los Angeles County Superior Court Commissioner Wade Olsen. She pleaded no contest in July to one count each of first-degree murder and arson of an inhabited structure.

Deputy District Attorney Tony Cho of the Elder Abuse Section prosecuted the case.

Armstrong was a waitress at a local restaurant that was frequented by 82-year-old Ralph Simonian.

On Nov. 15, 2012, Simonian was found at his home in the 900 block of South Holiday Drive in West Covina. His house had been set ablaze and he had been stabbed multiple times.

Armstrong was arrested in September 2013 in Delaware.

Case KA102596 was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

### [About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#)

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.